Joseph O'Connell

RESUME

Education:

University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Bachelors of Business Administration in Business Administration Graduated Bachelors of Arts in Economics Graduated

Work Experience:

PARENTS, Inc., Program Supervisor

2019 - Present

I currently supervise the Comprehensive Counseling and Support Services (CCSS) program for this agency. This program supports families involved in Child Welfare Services (CWS) by offering supervised skill-building visitation, individual counseling and parenting education classes. My responsibilities include supervising 14 staff, managing and assigning cases, reviewing reports and ensuring contract compliance.

Since starting at this agency I have designed and implemented an electronic database system that tracks progress notes and case statuses for our program. This has greatly increased our productivity and efficiency as an organization. During the recent pandemic, this system has also enabled staff to effectively work from home. Starting April 2020, our 12-week parenting education classes have had to move to an online format. I assisted with converting all of our documentation to an online format that could easily be accessed and completed by participants on their cell phones. I also successfully worked with our contract providers to access funding to offer cell phones to disconnected clients. This ensured that all participants were able to continue to engage in services uninterrupted.

EPIC 'Ohana Inc., Financial Literacy Facilitator

2013 - Present

I worked in the HI HOPES Division of this non-profit organization. EPIC 'Ohana's mission is to strengthen 'ohana and enhance the welfare of children and youth through transformative processes that are respectful, collaborative and solution-oriented. My duties at this organization are to facilitate financial literacy classes. Each year I teach 7 sets of classes across the state. Classes contain 8-15 foster youth whose ages range from 15-20 years. Since I began teaching these classes, I have revised and created all of the handouts as well as introduced many hands-on activities.

Hawaii First Federal Credit Union, Financial Literacy Trainer

2011 - 2013

This is a nationally recognized Credit Union that serves resident of Hawaii Island. I worked in the Community Resource Center Division as a financial literacy trainer and counselor. My primary duties were creating individualized plans to low-income families and developing and delivering various financial workshops. I designed two series of workshops while at this organization. One focused on basic financial literacy concepts and the other focused on potential homeowners. These workshops were designed for adults who wanted to improve their financial wellbeing. Once developed, I also coached fellow staff on how to replicate the workshops at our sister offices.

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Work Experience Continued:

Hawai'i Leadership Academy, Winners Camp, Facilitator

2005 - Present

This is a residential camp on Oahu for teenagers. Participants learn to create a positive sense of self-identity through a safe, supportive environment where they break through self-imposed limitations. I currently work at this camp 4-6 weekends a year to assist with large groups. At this camp I have various responsibilities including, team leader, facilitator and staff trainer. Facilitating and this site entails leading a group of 40-60 teens through the camp curriculum. This camp is focused on increasing the academic performance of the teens in attendance. We do this by teaching them visual, auditory and kinesthetic learning techniques. I regularly lead the camp in a session called "The First 10 Presidents" where the attendees learn the first ten presidents through a series of visual, auditory and gestured mnemonic tools.

Accomplishments:

- 2019-2020; Worked with Kamehameha Schools on a program to increase the community
 and family engagement of Native Hawaiian children in Foster Care. A program was created
 and funded to enroll 20 East Hawai'i foster youth into the Ho'oulu Native Hawaiian
 Registry program at Kamehameha Schools. Once registered, youth will have a greater
 understanding of their genealogy and will be able to apply for all programs offered by
 Kamehameha Schools.
- December 26, 2019; Named "Hero Next Door" by the Honolulu Star Advertiser.
- 2019; Worked with the Jim Casey Foundation in Baltimore, Maryland to revise their Financial Literacy Curriculum.
- 2018; Worked with Friends of Foster Families to introduce and pass legislation to reduce caseloads for East Hawaii Child Welfare Workers.

Trainings Attended:

- HIPAA Compliance Training, March 2020
- HomeBuilders with Families with Domestic Violence, September 2019
- HomeBuilders Core Curriculum Training on Motivational Interviewing, June 2019
- National Wraparound Implementation Center (NWIC) Wraparound Model, January 2019

Additional Skills:

- Trained and licensed CWS general license resource caregiver since 2015
- Work Ethic, I am reliable and consistent
- Valid Driver's License with reliable vehicle and proper insurance
- Proficient in Microsoft Office and Google Products; Excel, Word, Google Drive.